

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 23-26 are pending. Claims 23-26 are amended by the present amendment. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment, as support for the amendments may be found at least at page 32, lines 19-27 and Figures 7(g) and 7(h).

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 23-26 were objected to and Claims 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yamagishi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,535,008, hereinafter “Yamagishi”) in view of Hosono (U.S. Patent No. 5,856,930) and further in view of Hirabayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,002,834, hereinafter “Hirabayashi”).

With regard to the objection to Claims 23-26, Claims 23-26 are amended to recite “a time relation table which includes playback time information.” Accordingly, the objection to Claims 23-26 is believed to be overcome.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yamagishi in view of Hosono and further in view of Hirabayashi, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 23 recites in part, “said management area includes a time relation table which includes playback time information, address information relating to I-pictures of the MPEG-encoded information, and resume information including playback position time information.”

The outstanding Office Action cited the I frame access information shown in Figure 7E of Yamagishi as “management information.” However, it is respectfully submitted that none of the I frame access information includes playback position time information as recited in amended Claim 23. The I frame access information shown in Figure 7E of Yamagishi is described at column 18, lines 28-33 of Yamagishi as the first *sector* number in which each I

frame of the corresponding GOP is recorded. Thus, as Yamagishi does not teach or suggest that the I frame access information includes playback position *time* information, the I frame access information of Yamagishi is not “management information” as recited in Claim 23.

As Hosono is not cited as describing “management information,” it is respectfully submitted that Hosono also does not teach or suggest “management information” as recited in Claim 23.

Finally, the outstanding Office Action apparently cited the table having time and sector information shown in Figure 2 of Hirabayashi as “a time relation table which includes playback timestamp information and address information relating to I-pictures of the MPEG-encoded information.” However, it is respectfully submitted that the trick play tables described by Hirabayashi do not include both “a time relation table” and “resume information including playback position time information” as recited in amended Claim 23. Thus, Hirabayashi does not teach or suggest “management information” as recited in Claim 23.

Consequently, as none of Yamagishi, Hosono, or Hirabayashi teach or suggest “management information” as recited in Claim 23, Claim 23 is patentable over Yamagishi in view of Hosono and further in view of Hirabayashi.

Amended Claims 24-26 recite similar elements to Claim 23. Accordingly, Claims 24-26 are patentable over Yamagishi in view of Hosono and further in view of Hirabayashi for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 23.

Application No. 10/792,210  
Reply to Office Action of October 20, 2005

Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion and present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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